

REMARKS

Reconsideration and entry of the above amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested. Claims 20 and 22 have been amended. Claims 6-9 and 20, 22, 24-29 remain pending, with claims 6-9, 28 and 29 being withdrawn from consideration.

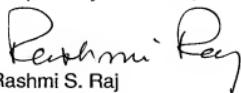
Claims 20, 22, and 24-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tanasawa et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed. Claims 20 and 22 recite that fuel is permitted to enter the volume and collect in the interior of the seat. This is not possible with the structure of Tanasawa et al. since the cut-out 7 communicates with the outlet 3. Thus, no fuel can collect in a volume defined by the cutout 7 since fuel would be expelled through the outlet port 3.

To advance prosecution, claims 20 and 22 have been amended to recite that the body passage communicates with and surrounds substantially the entire needle. Passage 8 of Tanasawa et al. does not communicate with the needle 6, and passage 9 of Tanasawa et al. does not surround substantially the entire needle 6. In addition, claims 20 and 22, as amended, recite that the volume defined by the cut-out is separate from the outlet of the fuel injector. The cut-out 7 that defines a volume in Tanasawa et al. communicates with the fuel outlet 3 and thus is not separate from the outlet as claimed. Therefore, rejection of claims 20 and 22 and the claims that depend there-from should be withdrawn.

Claim 20 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Horsting. As noted above, claims 20 and 22, as amended, recite a cut-out forming a volume in the seat separate from the outlet for collecting fuel to reduce a temperature of the seat. Horsting discloses no such cut-out or volume separate from the outlet 24 for collecting fuel since the cutout (swirl volume) 34 of Horsting must communicate with the outlet 24 (see Horsting column 3, lines 41-43). Therefore, no fuel can be collected. Thus, the rejection should be withdrawn.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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